



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN DISTRICT OFFICE



STEVEN E. CHESTER  
DIRECTOR

August 6, 2007

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



299875

Mr. Jason El-Zein  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
9311 Groh Road, Room 216  
Grosse Ile, Michigan 48138

Dear Mr. El-Zein:

SUBJECT: Referral for Emergency Removal Action  
Former Carter Color Coat Facility  
6051 Hastings, Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan

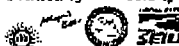
This letter is to formally request the assistance of the United States Environmental Protection Agency to complete emergency removal actions at the parcel of property known as former Carter Color Coat, by the Department of Environmental Quality. A briefing memo is attached which provides additional background information on the nature of the risks encountered at the facility. If you need additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Oladipo Oyinsan, District Supervisor  
Southeast Michigan District Office  
Remediation and Redevelopment Division  
586-753-3800

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Nathan Vincent, Department of Environmental Affairs  
Mr. Paul Owens, DEQ  
Ms. Patricia Thornton, DEQ



## **BRIEFING PAPER**

### **Formal Referral**

**United States Environmental Protection Agency to Carter Color Coat Facility  
MERA No. 82001589**

#### **Request:**

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Remediation and Redevelopment Division (RRD), Detroit Field Office is hereby requesting assistance from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to complete emergency removal actions at a parcel of property located at 6051 Hastings Street, Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, and otherwise address potential acute health hazards and physical hazards associated with the abandoned paint factory.

#### **Background/Facts:**

The site is currently owned by the city of Detroit, Planning and Development Department, which acquired the property through foreclosure. The property is comprised of approximately eight-acres and is developed with a large six-story concrete and steel frame building which covers approximately one-half of the site. The building was originally constructed and operated by the Fisher Body Division of General Motors Corporation (GMC) between 1919 and 1984. Facility operations involved automotive stamping of special discs and tools, dye sets, jigs, and fixtures including prototype and model parts. The operations conducted by GMC resulted in the generation of spent solvents, spent plating wastes, and ignitable and corrosive wastes. Between 1985 and 1990, the facility was owned and operated by Cameo Color Coat. The property ownership was transferred to Carter Color Coat on October 1, 1990. Carter Color Coat declared bankruptcy in 1992 and abandoned the facility sometime in 1993. Carter Color Coat and Cameo Color Coat produced pretreated metal parts and then used cathodic electrode position to cover parts with an epoxy-urethane coating. These activities took place on the first two floors of the building.

#### **Response Activities Undertaken:**

GMC conducted a removal action at the property in the early 1990s, removing some paints and other hazardous materials from the building. In 2005, the DEQ conducted a site assessment with Clean Michigan Initiative funding which provided the basis for the state to determine a scope of work and develop bid specifications in 2005 to address the environmental concerns at the facility. The project work went out for bid, and the lowest responsive bid came in at \$694,160; however, the contract was never awarded because of state budget issues. A

total breakdown of site issues and lab results can be found at the DEQ Detroit Field Office in the file project manual and specifically in the bid schedule.

Risks Requiring Action:

A trench on the first floor of the building contains Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) (57 parts per million in the soil beneath), Polynuclear Aromatics, Lead, and Arsenic above industrial direct contact criteria. Bid specifications included the following interim response work: removal of underground storage tanks, removal of over packed drums and containers, removal of PCB containing wood block flooring, removal of three solid waste management units that contain liquid and solid waste products, removal of contaminated concrete beneath the waste management units, removal and disposal of all PCB containing light ballasts and mercury fluorescent light tubes, switches and gauges, removal of all floor debris which contains asbestos, and all asbestos containing material pipe insulation, transite tiles, duct work, and ceiling tiles.

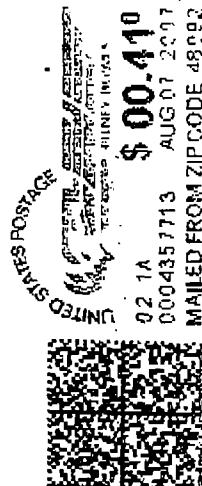
Recommendation:

RRD staff are concerned that the observed conditions present an imminent and substantial endangerment to both the public health and to the environment.

The DEQ RRD Southeast Michigan District Office recommends that this site be referred to the U.S. EPA for appropriate remedial response actions.

Prepared by: Patricia Thornton, Geologist  
RRD Detroit Field Office  
Department of Environmental Quality  
August 2, 2007

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN DISTRICT OFFICE  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
27700 DONALD COURT  
WARREN MI 48092-2783



Mr. Jason El-Zein  
United States Environmental Protection  
Agency  
9311 Groh Road, Room 216  
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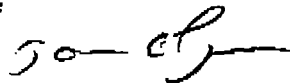
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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5

DATE: August 10, 2007

SUBJECT: Site: Former Carter Color Coat Facility  
Location: Detroit, Michigan

FROM: Jason H. El-Zein, Chief  
Response Section 1



TO: Jeff Kimble, OSC

This case is being formally assigned to you. The Michigan DEQ has requested the Emergency Response Branch 1's assistance in the assessment for a removal at the Former Carter Color Coat Facility, Detroit, Michigan. Please provide me with a schedule for completing this assignment by September 10, 2007. This should, at minimum, include a time frame for completing the site assessment, a site investigation report, and a short memo report for site assessment activities, enforcement process, field work activities, and final report. The Agency must be able to account for this project, so obtain a site ID number and keep me posted on your progress. If you have any problems or need some help, please let me know right away.

Thank you.

Attachment

cc: Bill Bolen, ERB1 Chief, U.S. EPA  
Oladipo Oyinsan, MDEQ  
Paul Owens, MDEQ  
Patricia Thornton, MDEQ  
Dr. Nathan Vincent, DEA

312-886-7947  
Richard. Wagner

